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REV. 5/93

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO
KLOTZ (PCT)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/831322

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/DE99/03535

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
5 NOVEMBER 1999

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
6 NOVEMBER 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION
DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REPRESENTING A SURFACE

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US
THOMAS KLOTZ

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(l).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau)
 - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has **NOT** expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:

2 SHEETS OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Applicant Claims Priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 198 51 337.2 filed November 6, 1998.
Applicant Claims Priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of: PCT/DE99/03535 filed November 5, 1999.

APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/831322

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/DE99/03535ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
KLOTZ (PCT)☒ The following fees are submitted:**Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):**

Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$860.00

- International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)
.....\$690.00Neither international preliminary examination fee paid (37 CFR 1.82) nor
international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO.....\$1,000.00International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)
and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4).....\$100.00**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**

\$ 860.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ____ 20 ____ 30
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

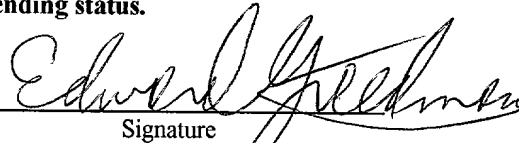
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	22 - 20 =	- 2 -	X \$18.00	\$ 36.00	
Independent Claims	2 - 3 =	- 0 -	X \$80.00	\$	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 896.00	
Reduction by 1/2 for Small Entity status.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 896.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ____ 20 ____ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 896.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +					
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 896.00	
				Amount to be:	
				refunded	\$
				charged	\$

Applicant claims Small Entity status.

- a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 896.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 03-2468 in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-2468. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576-1696
(516) 365-9802


Signature

Edward R. Freedman
Reg. No. 26,048

Express Mail No. **EL 769 391 415 US**
Date of Deposit **May 7, 2001**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Ass't. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Ingrid Mittendorf

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: THOMAS KLOTZ (PCT)
PCT NO.: PCT/DE99/03535
FILED: 5 NOVEMBER 1999
TITLE: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REPRESENTING A SURFACE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Ass't. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the attached Abstract of the Disclosure on a
separate page.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On Page 1, above line 1, please insert the following
paragraphs:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German
Application No. 198 51 337.2 filed November 6, 1998. Applicant
also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/DE99/03535 filed

November 5, 1999. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-22 and replace them with new claims 23-44 as follows:

--23. A method for representing a surface (1), characterized in that a flat display device (6) is partly or wholly covered by means of an add-on component (2). whereby the add-on component (2) receives at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5).

24. A device for representing a surface (1), comprising a display screen (6) to which an add-on component (2) is mechanically connected upstream, said add-on component having at least one electrical switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5).

25. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the flat display (6) is an electronic cathode-ray picture tube.

26. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the flat display (6) is an LCD-display.

27. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the display screen (6) is an LED-display.

28. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the add-on component (2) represents a flat cover.

29. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the add-on component is wholly or partly transparent.

30. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5) is arranged on/in the add-on component (2).

31. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5) located on/in the add-on component (2) is a micro-key, rotary control or linear path selector.

32. The device according to claim 23, characterized in that the switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5) are electrically connected to other electric/electronic components (microprocessors) by means of a printed circuit.

33. The device according to claim 23, characterized in that a graphics (11) is generated by means of commercially available software on the display screen (6) radially in relation to the corresponding switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5).

34. The device according to claim 33, characterized in that the graphics (11) is unicolored.

35. The device according to claim 23, characterized in that the graphics (11) is multicolored.

36. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the graphic display indicates switching conditions.

37. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the graphics (11) shows a television picture (7).

38. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the add-on component (2) is made of plastic.

39. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the add-on component (2) is made of metal.

40. The device according to claim 24, characterized in that the add-on component (2) has breakthroughs (8, 9, 10).

41. The device according to claim 40, characterized in that the breakthroughs (8, 9, 10) serve as windows.

42. The device according to claim 39, characterized in that the surfaces between the breakthroughs (8, 9, 10) receive switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5).

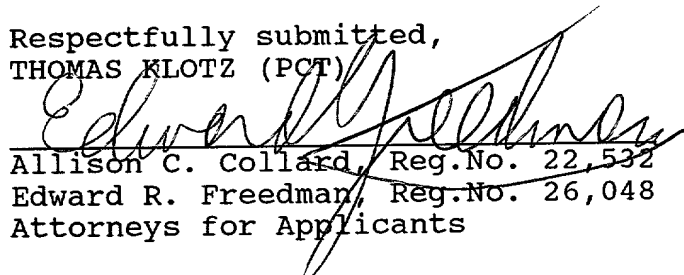
43. The device according to claim 23, characterized in that the controls of the switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5) are shaped in an ergonomically useful manner.

44. The device according to claim 23, characterized in that the flat display (6) is a plasma display tube.--

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1, claims 1-22 have been replaced by new claims 23-44 and an Abstract has been provided. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS KLOTZ (PCT)


Allison C. Collard, Reg.No. 22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No. 26,048
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Enclosure: Abstract

Express Mail No. EL 769 391 415 US
Date of Deposit May 7, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Ass't. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Ingrid Mittendorf

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REPRESENTING A SURFACE

The present invention relates to a device and a method for representing any type of desired surface, in particular a surface that integrates both switching/controlling elements in a graphical representation and the circuit conditions within any desired process, whereby the input elements are capable of reading out changing functions and the latter are clearly associated with the input element in a graphical, pictorial form. Furthermore, the invention relates to the controlling of complex processes that are to be controlled and monitored on a representation surface sized as small as possible.

Such surfaces for controlling and regulating processes of any type are well known in the prior art and are currently controlled and regulated via keys, rotary controls or shift registers, the function of which is clearly fixed by means of association with defined components or corresponding legends. Changing functions of the control elements are currently indicated to the user by means of simple light displays or by illuminated alpha-

numerical displays that are controlled by a microprocessor, or displayed on video screens that are arranged around the control elements. The drawback of an alpha-numerical display lies in the fact that its inherent display capability is limited to the representation of characters according to the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII code); however, its advantage lies in the relatively low manufacturing cost of such a type of display. Liquid-crystal display screens, which are frequently used as well, offer distinctly greater graphical display possibilities than alpha-numerical displays and combine such displays with representations in different colors. The drawback of liquid-crystal display screens, however, lies in their relatively high manufacturing cost as well as in their programming of the desired representations of functions, which requires substantial expenditure, so that their use in a special customer-specific form will be profitable only if such LCD's are produced in large series. Furthermore, the use of a plurality of display screens in one device is very cost-intensive.

Another possibility for representing complex processes at favorable cost, and for controlling them in a clear

form, which can be realized in small series as well, consists in the application of commercially available computer display screens that are currently provided with input elements arranged around the display screen, or which are coated with a surface that is sensitive to touch. Such a variation for controlling processes offers the benefit that the manufacturer is able to make use of commercially available primary products, and to adapt the latter in a simple manner to his own control processes by means of an operating system that is commercially available as well. For such a purpose, the complete spectrum of graphics software is available to the manufacturer, so that the necessity of having to produce at substantial expenditure his own display elements can be dispensed with. Use is currently made of said possibility in all areas of control technology. Examples of such application include automatic bank tellers, weighing systems, sound studio equipment and information systems.

However, the reason for which a display screen that is sensitive to touch constitutes a disadvantage lies in the fact that a switching process is triggered without any noticeable acknowledge message, so that it is easily possible to trigger a process inadvertently. A further

drawback lies in the fact that a controlling and regulating process that actually could be usefully controlled via a rotary control element, is not supported by commercially available display screens that are sensitive to touch. Furthermore, a display screen that is sensitive to touch is capable of controlling only one function at a time.

Said drawbacks are compensated by display screens. Such display screens are provided with keys or rotary controls that are arranged around the display screen. However, arranging such control elements leaves large parts of the display screen mainly located in the center of the display screen unused for the actual control function. Likewise, the radial representation of a condition around a control element is not possible in this form if the control element is located on the edge of the display screen.

Therefore, the problem of the present invention is to provide both a device and a method that are capable of representing a switching/controlling surface with commercially available means in a simple manner and at favorable cost on a surface of representation that is sized as small as possible.

Said problem is solved with the characterizing features of the independent main claim.

The method for representing a surface as defined by the invention is characterized in that a display screen is partly or wholly covered by means of an add-on component, whereby such an add-on component receives a switching/controlling element that, when actuated, triggers a function, and is capable of effecting a display on the display screen.

The device as defined by the invention produced according to said method comprises a display screen, to which an add-on component is mechanically connected upstream, such an add-on component comprising at least one electrical switching/controlling element.

The device as defined by the invention for controlling and regulating processes is in particular characterized in that a display screen is provided with a transparent or opaque surface that supports keys, rotary control elements or linear path selectors in any desired location distributed over the display screen, whereby the given state of such controls is graphically displayed in uni- or

multicolor representations by means of the display screen located around the respective control element and beneath the respective control element, or in one or a number of sites located next to the respective control element, in a manner controlled by software in any desired way.

It is basically possible to employ in an advantageous manner any high-resolution display screen, whereby cathode-ray picture tubes, LCD-displays or LED displays are preferably employed.

The add-on component connected upstream of the display screen represents a flat cover, as a rule, which is partly or wholly transparent or opaque depending on how the surface is to be designed.

The switching/controlling elements may be advantageously arranged in the add-on component, whereby the switching/controlling elements are electrically connected to other electric/electronic components such as, for example a microprocessor by means of a printed circuit. The switching/controlling elements are micro-keys, rotary controls or linear path selectors, as a rule. The electric/electronic components must not necessarily be

secured on the add-on component, but can be arranged outside of the surface just as well.

It was found to be extremely advantageous to the present invention that graphics generated with commercially available software can be generated on the display screen in radial relation to the corresponding switching/controlling elements, such graphics displaying the given switching state when the switching/controlling elements are actuated. The graphics do not have to be uni-colored in this conjunction but may just as well be designed in terms of color according to the preferences of the user.

It is advantageous also, furthermore, if a moving television image is blended into the surface or the display screen instead of the graphics.

The material advantageously may consist of plastic, metal, or a combination of the two materials, whereby the worked-in breakthroughs serve as windows of the display screen or for receiving the switching/controlling elements.

It is, of course, advantageous if the controls of the switching/controlling elements are designed in an ergonomically useful manner.

Other features essential to the invention are specified in the dependent claims.

The invention is explained in greater detail in the following with the help of drawings, in which

FIG. 1 is the front view of an add-on component (2) as defined by the invention, which has different switching/controlling elements (3, 4 and 5).

FIG. 2 is the side view of the surface (1) as defined by the invention, comprising the add-on component (2), which is mechanically connected upstream, and the display screen (6) connected downstream;

FIG. 3 is the front view of an exemplified embodiment of a complete surface (1) as defined by the invention.

FIG. 1 shows the front view of an add-on component (2) as defined by the invention. The add-on component 2 is

generally a flat cover that is mechanically associated upstream of a suitable display screen 6. The switching/controlling elements 3, 4 and 5 may be arranged in any desired site on the entire surface, which is generally dependent upon which kind of division is deemed useful. In the present exemplified embodiment, the rotary controls are arranged in the top row. The sliding controls 4 are located in the center row, and the pushbuttons 5, which actuate a switch or the like, are arranged in the bottom row. In the radial direction, the recesses 8, 9 and 10 are arranged around the switching/controlling elements 3, 4 and 5, such recesses permitting an unobstructed view of the display screen 6 located underneath. The windows 10 could be omitted if a transparent, light-permeable top attachment 2 were used.

FIG. 2 shows a schematized side view of the entire surface 1. The display screen 6, which may be a high-resolution cathode-ray tube or an LCD-display, is provided with an add-on component 2 that is masking the display screen 6. The switching/controlling elements 3, 4 and 5 are arranged in this conjunction within the add-on component (mask), which, however, is not necessarily required. In other exemplified embodiments, which are not shown here,

the switching/controlling elements 3, 4 and 5 are mounted on the add-on component 2.

An example of a complete surface 1 is schematically shown in FIG. 3. The round buttons located in the four horizontal rows symbolize the switching/controlling elements 3, 4 and 5. The graphics 7 can be seen radially in relation to the switching/controlling elements, such graphics having been generated with the help of commercially available software, so that any desired representation can be selected. Another exemplified embodiment of the radially arranged graphics 7 can be seen in the bottom row.

The invention thus permits the use of commercially available operating systems such as, for example Microsoft Windows or Apple DOS, in order to represent all control functions in the form of high-resolution graphics in color on a commercially available cathode-ray display screen or liquid-crystal display screen, whereby the manufacturer is able to make use of the advantage of employing ergonomically useful control elements that he is familiar with. An add-on component of the type described above for forming a surface as defined by the invention can be

prefabricated by simple milling and drilling operations, so that the manufacture of such a mask is economical both for individual units and small manufacturing series as well.

Claims

1. A method for representing a surface (1), characterized in that a flat display device (6) is partly or wholly covered by means of an add-on component (2). whereby the add-on component (2) receives at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5).

2. A device for representing a surface (1), comprising a display screen (6) to which an add-on component (2) is mechanically connected upstream, said add-on component having at least one electrical switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5).

3. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the flat display (6) is an electronic cathode-ray picture tube.

4. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the flat display (6) is an LCD-display.

5. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the display screen (6) is an LED-display.

6. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the add-on component (2) represents a flat cover.

7. The device according to claims 2 and 6, characterized in that the add-on component is wholly or partly transparent.

8. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5) is arranged on/in the add-on component (2).

9. The device according to claims 2 and 7, characterized in that at least one switching/controlling element (3, 4, 5) located on/in the add-on component (2) is a micro-key, rotary control or linear path selector.

10. The device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5) are electrically connected to other electric/electronic components (microprocessors) by means of a printed circuit.

11. The device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a graphics (11) is generated

by means of commercially available software on the display screen (6) radially in relation to the corresponding switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5).

12. The device according to claim 11, characterized in that the graphics (11) is unicolored.

13. The device according to claim 1, characterized in that the graphics (11) is multicolored.

14. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the graphic display indicates switching conditions.

15. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the graphics (11) shows a television picture (7).

16. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the add-on component (2) is made of plastic.

17. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the add-on component (2) is made of metal.

18. The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the add-on component (2) has breakthroughs (8, 9, 10).

19. The device according to claim 18, characterized in that the breakthroughs (8, 9, 10) serve as windows.

20. The device according to claim 17, characterized in that the surfaces between the breakthroughs (8, 9, 10) receive switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5).

21. The device according to any one the preceding claims, characterized in that the controls of the switching/controlling elements (3, 4, 5) are shaped in an ergonomically useful manner.

22. The device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the flat display (6) is a plasma display tube.

R:\Ingrid\EMAIL\Klotz PCT Translation from Claus.doc

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a method by means of which a surface for controlling and regulating processes can be represented. An add-on part is mechanically connected upstream of a standard screen so that when the screen and add-on part cooperate a surface is created which immediately indicates any changes in the circuit states of a control loop.

1. A method for representing a surface for controlling and regulating processes, comprising the steps of: providing a standard screen; providing an add-on part; and mechanically connecting the add-on part upstream of the standard screen, such that when the screen and add-on part cooperate a surface is created which immediately indicates any changes in the circuit states of a control loop.

Fig. 1

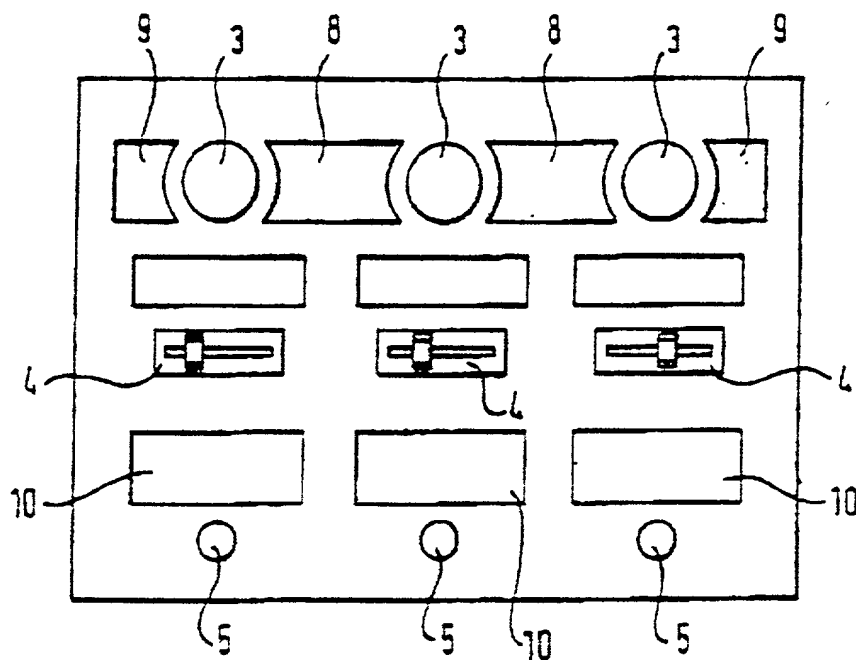


Fig. 2

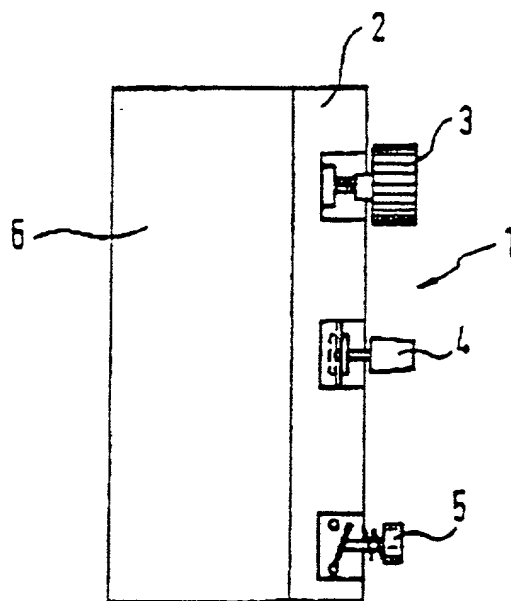
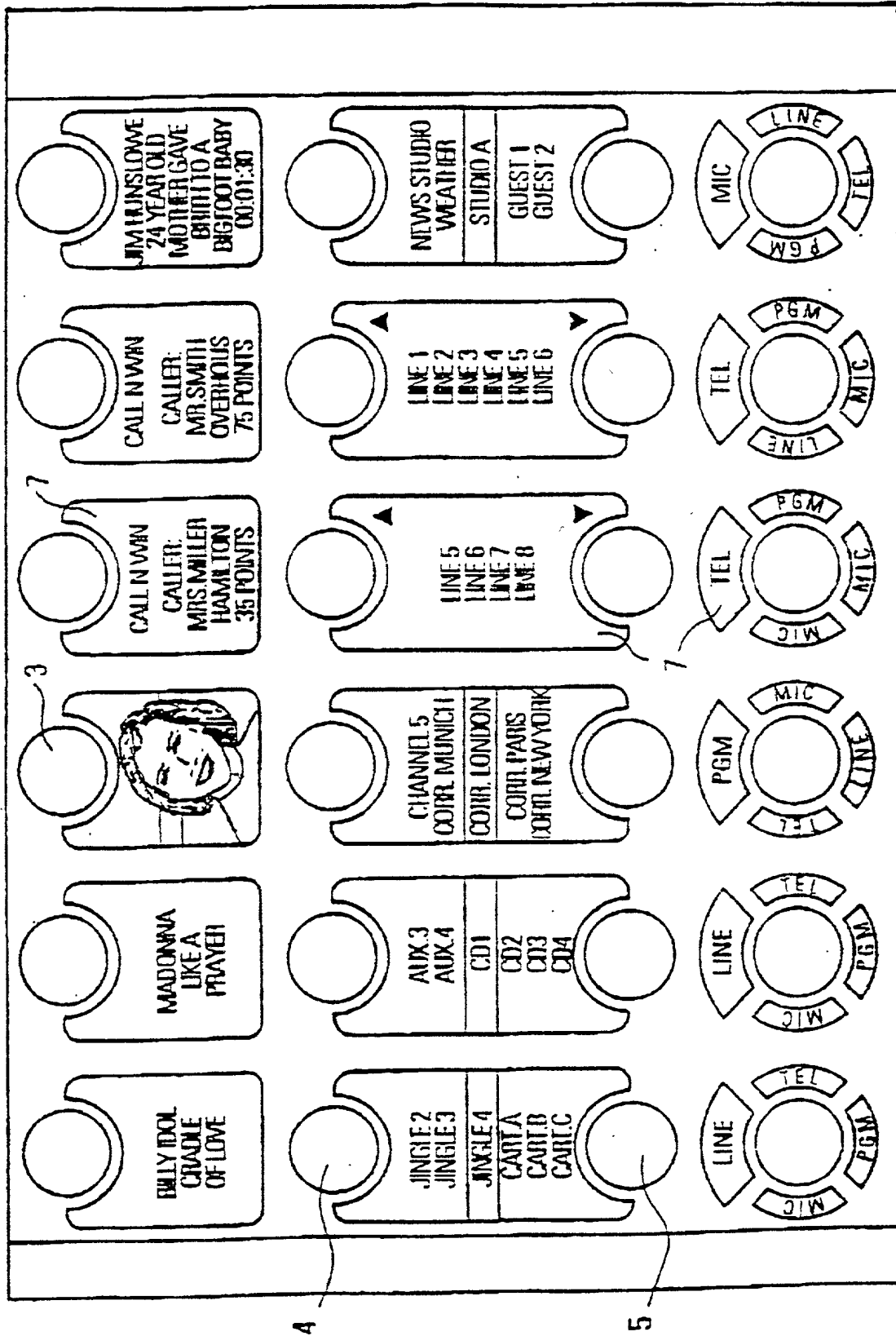


Fig. 3



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REPRESENTING A SURFACE

the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. _____

on _____,

and was amended

on _____ (if applicable).

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/DE99/03535

on November 5, 1999

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate "PCT")	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Germany	198 51 337.2	06 November 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY <small>(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)</small>			ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER KLOTZ, T. (PCT)	
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.				
(Application Number) _____		(Filing Date) _____		
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:				
PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:				
U.S. APPLICATIONS			STATUS (Check One)	
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.				
PCT APPLICATION NO	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS <small>ASSIGNED (if any)</small>		
POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith <i>(List name and registration numbers)</i> : <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> KURT KELMAN, Registration No. 18,628 EDWARD R. FREEDMAN, Registration No. 26,048; CHRISTOPHER B. GARVEY, Registration No. 31,015 WILLIAM C. COLLARD, Registration No. 38,411 </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> ALLISON C. COLLARD, Registration No. 22,532; FREDERICK J. DORCHAK, Registration No. 29,298 ELIZABETH COLLARD RICHTER, Registration No. 35,103 REINE GLANZ, Registration No. 46,728 </div> </div>				
Send Correspondence to: COLLARD & ROE, P.C. 1077 Northern Boulevard Roslyn, New York 11576		Customer No. 25889		Direct Telephone Calls to: <i>(name and telephone number)</i> (516) 365-9802
FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME KLOTZ	FIRST GIVEN NAME Thomas	SECOND GIVEN NAME	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY D-82049 Pullach	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany	
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FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME	
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POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY	
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.				
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201 <i>Thomas Klotz</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203	
DATE 12.6.2001	DATE		DATE	